

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 9, 11, 13, and 15 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, and 8-15 are pending and under consideration.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

In the Office Action, at page 2, item 4, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-6, and 8 are allowed. Additionally, in the Office Action, at page 3, item 5, the Examiner indicated that claims 9-15 would be allowable if the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 are overcome.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the office action at page 2, item 2, the Examiner rejected claims 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons set forth therein. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

In the office action at page 2, item 3, the Examiner rejected claims 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome the Examiner's rejection of being incomplete for omitting essential steps.

The word "upset" is defined, at [/www.merriamwebster.com](http://www.merriamwebster.com), as: "1 : to thicken and shorten (as a heated bar of iron) by hammering on the end : SWAGE 2 : to force out of the usual upright, level, or proper position : OVERTURN 3 a : to trouble mentally or emotionally : disturb the poise of b : to throw into disorder c : INVALIDATE d : to defeat unexpectedly 4 : to cause a physical disorder in; *specifically* : to make somewhat ill." (<http://www.merriamwebster.com/cgi-bin/dictionary?book=Dictionary&va=upset&x=18&y=12>, visited August 22, 2005).

Applicants respectfully submit that in the claims "upsetting," is used as a gerund form of the verb "upset."

Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art, if given the specification, would understand that, "upsetting a recess" means forming a recess using an upsetting technique, and that the recess is not already formed prior to the upsetting operation.

Similarly, regarding claim 15, Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art, if given the specification, would understand that the phrase "upsetting the chamfered portion" means forming the chamfered portion using an upsetting technique.

By way of analogy, if a method recited an operation of "digging a hole," one of ordinary skill in the appropriate art would understand that the hole is not formed prior to the digging operation.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the phrase "upsetting a recess" does not suggest that a recess is already formed prior to the "upsetting" operation, and thus, the phrase is not indefinite.

Similarly, regarding claim 15, in which a recess is first recited in the preamble, Applicants respectfully submit that the phrase "upsetting the chamfered portion" does not suggest that a recess is already formed prior to the "upsetting" operation, particularly since amended claim 15 now recites "...upsetting the chamfered portion in an end portion of an intermediate body to form a general shape of the chamfered portion...."

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 9, 11, 13, and 15 patentably distinguish over the cited art, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 10, 12, and 14, which depend, respectively, from independent claims 9, 11, and 13, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 9, 11, and 13, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

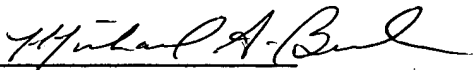
If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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